

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 083452

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, UR, US

SUBJECT: TRAVEL CONTROLS: RETALIATION

REF: LENINGRAD 440 AND PREVIOUS; MOSCOW 3795

1. IT CONTINUES TO BE DEPARTMENT POLICY TO RETALIATE AGAINST EACH SOVIET REFUSAL TO REGISTER TRAVEL AND EACH SOVIET TURNDOWN OF REQUEST FOR EXCEPTION TO TRAVEL CONTROLS MADE BY AMERICAN PERSONNEL AT CONGEN LENINGRAD AND EMBASSY MOSCOW. RETALIATION IS ON ONE-FOR-ONE BASIS, SOVIET CONGEN PERSONNEL FOR AMERICAN CONGEN PERSONNEL AND EMBASSY FOR EMBASSY. DIFFICULTIES CONTINUE TO BE ENCOUNTERED IN CARRYING OUT THIS POLICY AS AMERICAN HOSTS (OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE) OFTEN DO NOT SHARE DEPARTMENT'S VIEW OF USEFULNESS OF RETALIATION. HENCEFORTH, DEPARTMENT WILL CABLE EMBASSY AND CONGEN INFORMATION ON EACH RETALIATION AS IT OCCURS. EMBASSY AND CONGEN MAY WISH CONSIDER MAKING GREATER EFFORT IN TRAVEL PROGRAM TO PROBE THOSE AREAS AND CITIES OSTENSIBLY OPEN BUT DE FACTO CLOSED FOR "REASONS OF TEMPORARY NATURE." CONCERTED EFFORT ALONG THIS LINE 1971 -
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1973 MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO 1974 SOVIET RELAXATION.

DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO INFORM SOVIET CONGEN AND SOVIET EMBASSY OF SPECIFIC SOVIET REFUSAL AT WHICH RETALIATION IS DIRECTED. DUE TO SHORTAGE OF STAFF PLANNED

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON TRAVEL OF SOVIET OFFICIALS IN US FOR 1974 HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED.

2. IN REFERENCE TO REPORT OF EXCEPTIONS GRANTED TO SOV CONGEN FOR PERIOD JULY 1, 1974 TO JANUARY 20, 1975 SUBMITTED BY DEPARTMENT RECEPTION CENTER, SAN FRANCISCO, AND COPY OF WHICH CONGEN HAS, FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF DISCREPANCIES:

A. NOTE 96 SHOULD BE 95.

B. NOTE 112. SPOKANE DECLARED AN OPEN CITY FOR DURATION OF EXPO-74. NO EXCEPTION TO CLOSED AREA TRAVEL REQUIRED.

C. NOTE 123. ONLY 24 HOUR EXCEPTION REQUIRED (DEPARTMENT NOTE, APRIL 4, 1974).

D. NOTE 124. SEE NOTE 112 ABOVE.

E. NOTE 133. TRAVEL NOT REGISTERED. CLOSED AREA EXCEPTION NOT GRANTED (SEE PARAGRAPH 4).

F. NOTE 136. TRAVEL OF SOVIET EXPO-74 PAVILION PERSONNEL SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN REPORT. USE OF RECEPTION CENTER, SAN FRANCISCO, AS A LIAISON POINT WAS A CONVENIENCE GRANTED TO THE SOVIETS. EXPO-74 PERSONNEL CONSIDERED IN SAME CATEGORY AS AMTORG AND KAMA PERSONNEL IN NEW YORK, WHOSE TRAVEL REQUESTS ARE SUBMITTED DIRECT TO DEPARTMENT BY TELEX.

G. NOTE 156. NOT REGISTERED IN RETALIATION FOR TURNDOWN IN LENINGRAD (SEE PARAGRAPH 4).

3. IN SUMMARY, THE SOVIET CONGEN SUBMITTED 214 TRAVEL REQUESTS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 1974 TO MARCH 31, CONFIDENTIAL

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1975. SEVENTEEN CLOSED AREA AND EIGHT TIME EXCEPTIONS WERE REQUESTED. OF THE SEVENTEEN CLOSED AREA EXCEPTIONS, ONE (NO. 156) WAS NOT APPROVED IN RETALIATION FOR A TURNDOWN IN LENINGRAD AND THE OTHER (NO. 133), A TRIP TO SAN DIEGO, WAS NOT APPROVED FOR OTHER REASONS. KISSINGER

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